

Acceptance of the Passion

There is a sharp contrast between Jesus' and Peter's acceptance of Christ's passion. Both are afraid, but while Jesus faces and embraces, Peter hides and denies.

We understand Peter's gloomy darkness, and identify with the confusion and weakness leading to his failure. Like us, he tries to follow Jesus, but at a safe distance. He wants to be close, but not too close. He wants to feel he hasn't abandoned him, to be there—but remains on the fringe.

But following Jesus always leads to moments of truth. Jesus and life have a way of bringing us full circle to face our true selves. Are we in or out? How deep is our love? This time, Peter's love for Jesus fails. But like us, Jesus looks at him with understanding and gives him a chance to be honest, repent, and follow him once again.

Jesus' acceptance of his passion is our example. First, he suffers freely. He's not being forced into a fate he cannot escape. As a result, he is calm, self-possessed, in control of his heart, and patient. Second, he suffers peacefully without resentment. He isn't constantly recriminating against Judas, Peter, or John during his trial or flagellation. He doesn't seek blame or payback.

Not only is he not bitter or resentful, but he is full of compassion and focused on others: on the elderly women, his Mother, John the Apostle, forgiving his tormenters, and leading the good thief to heaven. Let's enter this holiest week following our Redeemer and imitating his example.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: *The Denial of St. Peter*, circa 1620
Artist: Pensionante del Saraceni
Location: National Gallery, London

For Reflection

*Do I value the infinite mercy
of Jesus, who forgives me
whenever I turn to him
sincerely?*

*What do I need to accept
or embrace in order to love
with greater peace?*

*Rather, he emptied himself...becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.
Philippians 2:7–8*

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

St. Joseph, Cyclone & Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak

Pastor: Rev. George Thirumangalam CMI

Mailing address: 20120 FM 485, Burlington, TX 76519.....**Phone** 254-985-2280

Email: cyclone.marak@gmail.com **Website:** marakchurch.org

Masses: Cyclone: Sat. 5:30PM & Sun. 8:15AM; Weekdays: Tue, Thurs & Friday: 7AM

Marak: Sundays: 10:15AM and Wednesday 6PM(unless otherwise stated)

The Sacraments:

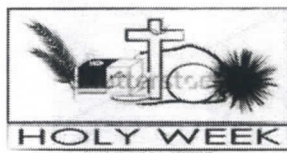
Baptism: On Sundays after Mass. Please contact the pastor for scheduling a meeting with him; a preparation program may be needed. Parents must be registered parishioners of St. Joseph, Cyclone or Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak.

Confessions: Before Mass on the weekend and anytime by appointment.

Marriage: Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor at least six months in advance before you set the date of the wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

**March 25, 2018: HOLY WEEK
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

"... So let us spread before his feet, not garments or soulless olive branches, which delight the eye for a few hours and then wither, but ourselves, clothed in his grace, or rather, clothed completely in him. We who have been baptized into Christ must ourselves be the garments that we spread before him.... Let our souls take the place of the welcoming branches as we join today in the children's holy song: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the king of Israel." - *Andrew of Crete (c 650-740)*



Bulletin Information: **MARAK:** Patsy Gaines (254-482-0570) - **CYCLONE:** Nancy Posvar (254-869-2511)

Bulletin deadline : Please call or e-mail info for the bulletin by Wednesday before the weekend!

Ministries for Holy Thursday—March 29**Eucharistic Minister:** Cindy Prcin**Wine:** Merlene Slavik/Albert Michalka**Lector:** Misty Green**Offertory:** Charles & Anna Teague**Altar Servers:** Erin Tomek & Pat Higgins**Ministries for Good Friday—March 30****Eucharistic Minister:** Merlene Slavik**Lector:** Alfred & Bernice Vrazel**Altar Servers:** Chase Hubnik & Cade Hubnik**Ministries for Sunday, April 1—EASTER****Rosary:** Lynne Hornung**Eucharistic Minister:** Albert Michalka**Ushers:** Richard Brenek & Robert Plachy**Lector:** Jeannine Dohnalik**Offertory:** Johnny & Kathy Winkler**Altar Servers:** Camryn Green & Colby Green & Brady Barton**MARAK MASSES—MARCH 25– April 1, 2018**

Date	Time	Intentions
Today– 3/25	10:15am	Annie & Joe Dohnalik by Debbie Dohnalik Bush
3/28– Wed. (Mass & Stations of the Cross)	5:30pm	Annie Jochec by Tony & Debbie Dohnalik
3/29– Holy Thursday	5:30pm	
3/30– Good Friday	5:30pm	
4/1 - Easter Sunday	10:15am	Cyril Vaculin by Julie McLerran

CYCLONE MASSES— MARCH 25– April 1, 2018

Date	Time	Intentions
Today – 3/25	8:15am	Pro Populo
3/27– Tuesday	7:00am	Randolph Green by Family
3/29– Holy Thursday	7:00pm	For the Celebrant & All Priests
3/30 - Good Friday - Stations of the Cross	3:00pm	
3/30 - Good Friday - Communion Service	7:00pm	
3/31– Holy Saturday Vigil	8:30pm	
4/1– Easter Sunday	8:15am	Mass for the Parish

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **TICKETS ON SALE:** 7th Annual Hope Night (for Place of Hope Pregnancy Center located in Rockdale) — Saturday, April 14th - 6PM—KC Hall Rockdale—Meal, Silent & Live Auction—Raffle—\$25.00 per person. Contact Patsy Gaines for tickets. See Flyer in Church Entry Bulletin Board.
- **SPRINGFEST—CYCLONE:** Today—Meal beginning at 10:30am... Please support St. Joseph's Parish!
- **ASHES TO EASTER BOXES:** Please return on Easter Sunday.

3/18: Stewardship: -Regular Offering—\$881.00**Thank you for your generosity!****Sanctuary Light: March 19-25** - Dakota, Hunter & Landon Marek by Dennis & Monica Marek

Prayer Chain...Continue to pray for all those in need of prayer especially for Dorothy Vaculin , Raymond Jochec, and Sharon Cartwell (friend of Bram Younts). Prayers are powerful and with God nothing shall be impossible.
Contact Ethel Marak—254-697-2565 or email—emmarak@juno.com to be put on the prayer chain.

THE SACRED TRIDUUM... Sundown on Holy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday

Holy Week is the most solemn and glorious week in Christianity, the pinnacle of the liturgical year. It is more sacred than Christmas! This is because Holy Week commemorates the final week of Our Lord's life, the very purpose for which Christmas happened. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday (when Jesus made his final entrance into Jerusalem) and culminates with Easter Sunday. As Holy Week progresses to its final days the solemnity heightens.

Sundown on Holy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday is considered the most solemn part of the liturgical year. This three-day period is referred to as the Easter Triduum, also known as the Sacred Triduum, or Paschal Triduum.

"Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery" (USCCB).

Here is a breakdown of each of the three days that make up the Easter Triduum:

HOLY THURSDAY

The evening Mass on Holy Thursday is referred to as The Mass of the Lord's Supper. This is where the Church relives the institution of the Eucharist and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Last Supper, as well as the institution of the priesthood, which took place the evening before Jesus was crucified.

The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday concludes with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the "altar of repose," a place where the consecrated host is kept other than the main altar where Mass is normally celebrated.

Because of its connection to the Last Supper, where Jesus instituted the Mass and the twelve Apostles first received Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament ("Take, eat, this is my body . . ."), Holy Thursday is a day especially given to adoration of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist; many parishes will have Eucharistic Adoration at this altar of repose late into the night.

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday is a mandatory day of fasting and abstinence. This is the day of the crucifixion, the day Jesus died for the sins of the world. The parish altar looks very different on Good Friday, it is plain and bare. There is no consecrated Host in the Tabernacle at the main altar of the church; it was carried away on Holy Thursday night to the "altar of repose" to signify Jesus' death. The candle by the Tabernacle is blown out, and the Tabernacle doors

are left open to show that it is empty. Jesus is gone. This is quite dramatic, highlighting that Good Friday is a solemn day of prayer and mourning.

The ceremony on Good Friday is not a Mass, but rather a communion service using the consecrated hosts from Holy Thursday. It often takes place at 3pm, the hour that Jesus breathed his last on the cross. Veneration of the Cross also takes place at this service, processing to kneel before a cross and either touching it or kissing it. Often the priest will begin the service prostrate in front of the altar.

HOLY SATURDAY

On this day Christ is in the tomb. There is no daytime Mass on Holy Saturday. It is still a day of fasting and sorrow, the final one before the Easter Vigil begins that evening. We remember, with Mary and the disciples, that Jesus died and was separated from them for the first time as he lay in the tomb. The faithful often continue their Good Friday fast through Holy Saturday.

In the Apostles Creed we pray "He descended into hell" (translated Hades, that is, the temporary abode of the dead – not the eternal lake of fire) which describes what Jesus did in the time between his burial and Resurrection. Jesus descended to the realm of the dead on Holy Saturday to save the righteous souls, such as the Old Testament patriarchs, who died before his crucifixion.

EASTER VIGIL / EASTER SUNDAY

A vigil Mass is held after nightfall on Holy Saturday, or before dawn on Easter Sunday, in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. This is called the Easter Vigil, the most glorious, beautiful, and dramatic liturgy for the Church.

The vigil is divided into four parts and can last up to three hours: 1) the service of light, 2) the liturgy of the Word, 3) the liturgy of Baptism, and 4) the liturgy of the Eucharist. This is also the Mass where many in RCIA are brought into full communion with the Catholic Church.

Easter Sunday is what we've all been waiting for! *"Therefore Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the 'Feast of feasts', the 'Solemnity of solemnities', just as the Eucharist is the 'Sacrament of sacraments'. St. Athanasius calls Easter 'the Great Sunday' and the Eastern Churches call Holy Week 'the Great Week'. The mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ crushed death, permeates with its powerful energy our old time, until all is subjected to him."* (CCC #1168, 1169)

Calendar

Monday

March 26

Holy Weekday

Is 42:1-7 / Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday

March 27

Holy Weekday

Is 49:1-6

Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday

March 28

Holy Weekday

Is 50:4-9a / Mt 26:14-25

Thursday

March 29

Holy Thursday

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14

1 Cor 11:23-26

Jn 13:1-15

Friday

March 30

Good Friday

Is 52:13-53:12

Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday

March 31

Holy Saturday

Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a

Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a,

10-13, 15-18

Ex 14:15-15:1

Is 54:5-14

Is 55:1-11

Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4

Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28

Rom 6:3-11

Mk 16:1-7

Sunday

April 1

Easter

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8

Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

Dear Padre,

Was the Mother of Jesus at the foot of the cross?

In John's Gospel the Mother of Jesus, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene stood "by the cross" (19:25). Moreover, Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing by and spoke to them (19:26-27).

In Mark's Gospel, among "the many other women" watching the crucifixion from a distance were "Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome" (15:40).

Luke simply records that "all his acquaintances stood at a distance, including

the women who had followed him from Galilee and saw these events" (23:49). But he mentions three women by name who visited the tomb: Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James (24:10).

Matthew also has "many women" looking on from a distance. Among them are "Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons" (27:56).

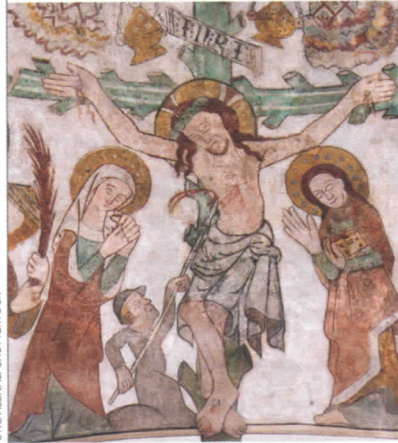
Only John records the presence of Jesus' mother and "Mary the wife of Clopas," who is believed to differ from Mary, the mother of James the

younger and Joses, and Mary, the mother of James and Joseph. Mary Magdalene is cited in all four Gospels.

"By the cross" or "at a distance" may indicate the location allowed for spectators at a crucifixion. However, it is possible that at some point they were permitted to approach the foot of the cross, as depicted sometimes in artworks.

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR

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STIG ALENAS/SHUTTERSTOCK



A Word From Pope Francis

Jerusalem, of course, means "city of peace." This is what God wills it to be....Yet sadly Jerusalem remains deeply troubled as a result of longstanding conflicts....May efforts and energies be increasingly directed to the pursuit of a just and lasting solution to the conflicts which have caused so much suffering.

—Welcoming ceremony, Tel Aviv, May 25, 2014